A Briefe DECLARATION

For

What manner of speciall Nusance concerning private dwelling houses, a man may have his remedy by Assis, or other Action as the Case requires.

Opinions of foure famous Sages of the Common Law; together with the power, and extent of customes in Cities, Townes, and Corporations, concerning the same: together with the determination of the Law, concerning the commodity, and use of houses, and their appurtenances,

Whereunto is added,
The Iustices of Assise their Opinion, concerning
statute-law for Parishes, & the power of Instices of Peace,
Churchwardens, and Constables; and to know what they
are to doe soncerning Bastards borne in their Parishes, reliefe of the poore, and providing for poore children,
what remedy for the same.

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The Arguments, and opinions of foure famous sages of the Common Law touching the power, and extent of customes of Cities, Townes, Corporations, and Inheritances, together with the determination of the Law concerning the commodity, and use of houses with their appurtenances, and wherein an action may be maintaineable concerning the same, and wherein not.



Man hath a house, and the windows thereof open into argument. an other mans houle, whether hee may build a house. so as to stoppe up the same lights, or not: concerning which, I purpose to shew

you myopinion, and likewife to flew unto you the necessiry and use of houses.

The first, and chiefe use of an house is to defend man from the extremity of the winde. and weather. And by the receit of comfortable light, and wholfome ayre, into the fame to preferve mans body in health.

Therefore whoso taketh from man so great a commodity as that which preserveth mans health in his castle, or house, doth in

manner as great wrong as if he deseifed him altogether of his freehold.

As if I have a Mill, and an other will turne away the water running to the same, I may bring

an Affift against him.

So, if I have a Pipe, which conveyeth water unto my house through the ground of an other man, and he will cut my pipe, I shall have an action against him: In like manner who so stoppeth my light, is the cause that no aire can enter into my house, without which no man can live, and a house lacking light, is rather a dungeon then a house.

If one who hath a horrible siekenesse bee in my house, and will not depart, an action will lie against him, and yet he taketh not any aire from me, but insecteth that which I have.

So if one cast filth neere unto my house, I may bring my action against him. If a man build so high that his house droppeth on my house, I shall have remedy against him.

And though light, and ayre be common, yet if by any mans owne acte they may bee made private, they may not then bee taken from him, and if they be, he shall not be without

remedy.

This appeareth by Hawkes, and Deere, which be fere nature yet if by mans industry they are made tame, the owner will thereby gaine property in them; but peradventure it will bee layd. The foile is his owne, and it is Dammer

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absq; injuria, what then? though it be his owne, he must so use it, that he hurt not his neighbour.

As if a man had a pond of water, and will fuffer it to drowne his neighbours land, he thall

have remedy against him.

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If a man be bound to repaire the bankes of the feathat it drowne not the land adjoyning, and so doth not, but the land is drowned; an action lieth against him. You may perhaps lay there is plenty of light remayning, this notwithfranding our action will lye very well, for the raking away, or impairing part thereof. As an action was brought quare arctavit, and 2. H.4. where a man had a way and an other plowed the same, and ir was thought there that an action would very well lie, and yet the way remained. If I have common in your Land, and you will plough part of the same Land, I shall very well maintaine an action against you. So it is of Common of Estovers, and piscary: And yet in all these cases, the whole is not gone, but fome part remaineth. This proveth that though he hath not stopped the whole light of the house, yet for that he hath stopped parcell, an action is very well maintainable, but if you had said, that on the same side there had beene plenty of light, it might have better stood with reason.

As couching your custome, whereby a man may stoppe his neighbours lights. I thinke this

have learned of Mr. Hules, a custome is thus defined, Consuetudo est ius non scriptum nunquam repugnans rationi naturali, and therefore if any custome swerue from reason, and naturall equity, it is but malus usus, and for that to be abolished, for by entendment, and consideration of the law, and reason, every custome had a reasonable beginning, as that case in 35.H.6. of selling Iewels in Cheapside may have a reasonable beginning. In like manner the custome of Govelkinde, that sonnes shall equally inherit the Lands of their fathers. Such is the custome, that if a woman marrie without licence, that she shall loose her dowry.

may enter Common with an other. All these, and such like may well bee thought to have a

reasonable beginning.

Otherwise it is, where by intendment their

beginning cannot be thought reasonable.

As that a man shall pay reliefe, when that he shall marry his daughter. And as the custome is in Mich, 35. H. 6. so. 31. of the pledging of goods: So it is of the custome, to arrest a man before the day of payment. In like sort in 2. H. 4. that the tenant shall not put his beasts into the Common, before the Lord hath put in his, which peradventure hee will never doe, so it is 19. H. 6. If the Major of a towne will prescribe to impound all beasts which shall be dammage.

dammage fesonet in his owne pound, and there to keepe them till he be satisfied as he list, or if he prescribe to use, and occupie the same beasts

howsoever he pleaseth.

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In 2.R. 3. and 22. E.4. one demanded whether it were a good custome, that if the Mayor of a towne suspect a man, that he may arrest and imprison him 3 daies: this was thought no good custome, but to be most abhorring, and dissonant from reason. And therefore forasmuch as houses bee necessary, and cannot bee without light, and ayre, their beginning was lawfull, necessary, and reasonable, but that a man might stoppe up his neighbours lights, was never necessary, neyther had lawfull, orreasonable beginning, neither at any time obtained the force of alaw, or cultome, for in K. Henry the 2. his time, it was but a constitution in London, & not any custome, or law; and therefore never allowed, or confirmed by Parliament, for Magna Charta Ca. 9. did confirme such old liberties and customes as London had at that time: And therefore if this were not any law or custome at the time of the making of that statute, it neyther was nor could be confirmed by the same, for the more generall Statutes shall have a reasonable construction. As the Statute that doth prohibite maintenance, shall have a construction, for lawfull maintenance is not thereby prohibited. The like law is that where ic is said, that a fine shall bee a Barre to a feme coverte:

lawfull fine, so this confirmation by Parliament of customes, and liberties of London, shall bee intended a confirmation of all their good, and lawfull customes, and not of unreasonable, or wrongfull usage, such as in 27, h. 6. if the house of tenant for terme of yeeres decay, that then he shall pay no rent, &c. But if your custome were then good, and so confirmed by Parliament, yet the words thereof may not bee stretched to our case, the words are visus fene-strarum, and the Civill law sayth, a man may estop visum, and not lumen, lumen est descendent de case, visus est mens prospectus ad terram.

And our law fayth, petit visum terre, And visus and lumen differ. But S' you cannot in this case defend your selfe both by the Common law and custome too. For you ought absolutely to trust to the one of them, and if you had plead thus by way of Barre, your plea without all doubt would have beene double.

As if a man will pleade affeafement with warrenty, and rely not on the warrenty, this plea is double. So in the case at the Barre, you plead both the Common law, and the custome, and your plea is double, and therefore for all these causes I thinkethe plaintife ought to recover.

Mr. Plowden.

Mr. Plowdens Argument.

Albeit it hath beene alleaged, that the win-

dowes have beene time out of memory there, and the lights ancient, it is all one, as if the house had beene built at this day. Put the case there is a pale betwixt your ground and mine, and you build to the uttermost part of mine, by your first building I am bridled and stopt of my building; And in the Country whoso maketh a hedge, will make a dike in the uttermost part upon his owne land. So he that maketh a parke, will leave ground out of the same compasse without the pale for his keeper to walke about it for there hee may better heare if any body be there within, then if he were within himselfe, And this is called free-bownd. If a man build his house so high that it droppeth on mine, an action will very well lie, for there is a manifest hurt and wrong done unto me : but 22. H. 6. where the Prior of St. Edees had three Mils, an other man built an other by them, hee could not have any remedy for this. But if any of his renants which held of him by grinding at his Mill grinde at the new Mill, the Prior may have an action against him, for he whose the land is, might use the same for his greatest commodity and gaine.

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If a man cut downe Trees which fall upon an other mans land, he shall have his action; otherwise it is, if a Tree fall by reason of winde. So in our case: of our owne soyle we may make the best as in 12. H.8.a man had a pond, and let the same runne out, whereby the next dwellers

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land was drowned, this was but damnum abfa; injuria, wherefore no action would lie. In 4. E. z. a man had a Limnekilne, which destroyed the fruit of his neyghbour, who maintained his action, for in that case this taketh place, se utere two, ut alien im non ladas; And Mr. Raftall fayth in his booke, if a man have a Dye-house, & the water which runneth to his house, killeth the Fish of an other, an action lyeth. If a man cast filth under my wals, I may punish him for it. And in the 46, E. 3. The Prior of Buckburft had a fluce, whereby Salmons came in, and one stopped the same, wherefore he had his action. Like whereas one cutterh away the water, which runneth to my Mill, for the proofe whereof Mr. Rynolds put a case out of 19. E.3. where an Ass: was brought for two things, one because hee had levied a house to stoppe the light; an other, because hee could not repaire the same: There it was thought that no action would lie, because he might have remedied this in the beginning when he built his house. And the case was in 7. E.3. in the last poynt, & there the lawyer sayd that he might have left space enough in his owne Land, and the party was nonfuted. Horwoods report hath two verses,

> Seperecordare si debes adificare Vi poteris stare cum eam vis reparare.

But you aide your selfe with a prescription that

that you have had light time out of minde, this is no good prescription, for a prescription must be against some party. But this is against God. You fay further that the other had no house, we is not good for a prescription must be in the affirmative and this is in the negative, & so saith Prifot in 22. H. 6. that a man cannot prescribe in the not having a house. But admitting it to be

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the ulage. An ulageis generall, & a constitution speciall in 12.E.4. A diversity is taken betweene ulage, and custome, for that a custome is a thing difagreeing from the Common law, but not contrary, & also it would not be beautifull that Cities should have any voyd places, in them, and ic would be most honourable that they should be populous. And therefore was there a Statute made 27. H.8. ca. primo, that there should not be any voyd places in divers Citties, also houses are necessary for the sustenance of man, in 22. E. 4. there is a custome that if a man plough his land, hee might turne his plough upon an other mans land: and this was thought a good custome for the favour of tillage, much more our case of building is to be favoured. 8. E. 4. the custome is that a Fish-man may drive stakes into an other mans ground to dre his nets, which was allowed for a very good cultome. Likewise 15. E. 2. one prescribed that when the Hay was carried out of a certaine Medow, that he should occupy the land untill our Lady day, which was allowed by the Court. So a man may prescribe to have Common of estovers in another mans Land, and to cut them downe himselfe. The Lord in ancient demesine prescribed; that if the villaine of another Lord remained a yeere and a day in ancient demefie, that then it shall not be lawfull for his Lord to take him from thence. In like manner one may prescribe to have gravell in my Land, and all these customes stand very well with reafon. If I have a way, and another man plow up the fame, I cannot have an action on my cafe, but I must have an ast and so is the booke in 2. H. 4. Mr. Fleetewood fayth that all customes must stand with reason, And in s. E. 4. it is fayd, that albeit all customes are confirmed, yer they must be examined, by the rule of reason, as the custome of Gavelkinde standeth with reason. The Statute that giveth a writof ravishment, de Gurd to Gaurden in soccage shal be extended to the Mayor, and Aldermen of London, to give them like remedy which was confirmed by r.E.3. Also the statute that no man shall give lands in Moremaine, yet Citizens and freemen of London may give lands in Mortemaine by their cultome, which cultome is also confirmed by act of Parliament. As for the doublenesse of the plea I will not say any thing, for that it is not any lustification, but onely for to diminish the damages, if perhaps it be found against us. And therefore upon the whole matter I thinke the plaintiffe ought not to recover in this action. I thinke the contrary, and first I will confider these foure things. First,

First, whether such buildings, ex appelto, be a Mr. Proper nulance by the Common law.

Argument,

Secondly, whether this custome be a good custome.

Thirdly, whether such kinde of buildings be for the beautifying of the City.

Fourthly, whether the tayd confirmation by Parliament make this custome good, or not.

As southing the first matter, the pulance which is supposed to be in Ropping up of windowes in the fouth part of an house, I conceive is a nufance by the Common law, for by the Common law, one shall not hur the freehold of another; and no greater hurs, prievance, or dammage can hee done to any mans freehold, then to take away the light and syre thereof, which is comfortable, and commodious for him, for when this light; and ayre are taken from him, his house comaineth as a dangeon. And divers cases there bee where a man taketh away from an other not the thing it selfe, but the commodity of the thing, and for that he shall have his remedy by action: as if I have a water running through your ground unto my Mill, and you will turne away the course thereof, or frop the fame, I may bring an affife 9. Eliziplating yet will confess, that if an other build a Mill by my Mill, I may not have any action, as 29. H.6. for it is downwood fore injuria. So it is in a. H. 4. In the case of the schoole codem retie. Butif any ought to grinde at my

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Mill, and another will hinder them, an adion lyeth 9. H. 6. fo. 45. where the Prior of St. Bartall had a faire, and one interrupted the comers thereto, whereby his toll was impaired, and yet not his faire, but the profit of his faire taken away, and he had remedy. So in our case he hath not medled with our freehold, and yet hath hee hurt our freehold. So in 4. E. 2. 13. E. 3. If I have a faire, and the King will grant another, if my faire bee impaired, by this I shall have an action, and so of a ferry, and the reason is because a man is compellable to maineraine his faire, ferry, or market, and if he doe not, it is punishable in a leere. But of a schoole, otherwise it is for that a man is not bound to maintaine it, but houses in Cittles men are bound to mainetaine and that by Sacure otherwise they may incurre the punishment 18. E. 3. one built his house so high over mine, that the raine dropped from his upon mine, and it was thought there that an action was maineraincable, yet that hurt might have beene amended a fortiers in our case where the hurt is perpetually and cannot be amended. And if for a way an action lyeth, as it is in the 42. E.3. much more for an hurr to our health, which above all things men have regard unto, for the proofe whereof we have a writ in the register de leproso amovendo. Likewise the selling of corrupt meate, whereby mens bodies may fustaine harme, is punishable in a Leete, which

proveth that the Common law hathregard unto the health, and welfare of everypprivate man. There is a cafe in 4.B. gilibaffiplacat where one built a Limekilne, and his neighbour was anoved by the finoke thereof, and had his remedy. If a man fiall bee punished for moke, which may be avoyded, and dureth but at times, what shall we thinke of the taking away of light, and ayre, which cannot be amended but remaineth a contimus!! and perpetual nula heras for the cafes in 19.B.3. which hath bin vouched to office make strongly against us, I take them to be one case; for fo much as the luttices which fpeake in one place, freake alfoin the other place brand last of all in both cules, the cale was thus, an affile of nufance was brought; and the plaintiffe counted how the defendant had levied a house, so that thereby his light was fropped up, and that hee could not so well come to his house as he did before, also that he could not repaire his house so well as he could before.

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Herebe said, as to the light be it a nusance, such a one as it is. Tiel. quel. for the repayring none, for when a man buildeth, he must leave so much space on his owne ground that he may come to repaire his house, and if hee had thought that stoping of his light had bin no nusance he would not have said, be it a nusance Tiel. quel. but have said as he did to the other case of repayring, it is no nusance. And therefore for the first matter, I thinke this to be a nusance by the Common law.

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As touching the second matter, whether this cultome be a good cultome or not, and I thinke the fame is no good cultome : For confuetado chin de ut supra a custome is not against law. and realon; but this cultome of yours is against reason, and is in effect, as if a man should take my life from me, for these be the instruments to maintaine, and preferve manslife, and the law faith flauteretus, at dienum non ladar, therefore a cuftomo against this precept is malus wins. and therefore abolesday, as the cafe in 21. E. 4. If the Kings bailife or any other bailife di-Braine Carrell, and bring them to the Lords pound, and if the owner did not within three daies agree with the Lord, that then he thould loose his Cattell, this was thought unreasonable and not allowed for any good cultone. So in 9. H.6. where there the Lord of a Leer would have prescribed to have all the waste ground, but he could nor, because it was against reason, that he who had nothing in the Land should have the walts. Like unto the faid case in the 25. H. 6. fo. 31. of pledging of goods, and fuch is that case in 43.E. 2. wherethe Lord of the Manor would have prescribed that none of his renants should marry their daughters without his licence, this custome was thought to bec against all equity, and reason. In 13.E.3. in a dum fuit infractatem one would have prescribed, that if the plantiffe could number 12 d. her might stien his land by the cultomer this is not a reasonable custome,

for a man may be able to aumber rod and yet not have diferenton enough to alien his land. So it is likewife against naturall reason; that one should barne me of my light and with without which I cannot live, and therefore thefe things be of necessity. Also it is againful the law that one should meddle with the freehold of another man unlesse it beefor a Common wealth. as 8. E. 4. where one justified the setting in of Stakes forto drie his nets, and likewife in the II. H.z. where one brought an action for taking or driving his Hogges, the defendant justified. because the custome of the Citry was, that if any mans Hogges came into the Classand upon warning given to the owners to keepe them out, if they came againe, that then they shall be forfeired. This is a reasonable custome, because swind are beasts that may cause distastes ro bee in a City, and therefore it is against the Common-wealth in 221 Et 40 where it is fayd that a man may turne his plaw upon another mans land, that is a good cultome, for by this meanes no land shall be unsowne, wich is for the maintenance of tillage, and the benefit of the Common-wealth. But this your custome is but a private enfrome, and nor for the maintenance of the Common-wealth, and therefore is like unto the customerin 43. E.3. that if the tename ceale to doe his fervice; the Lord may enter, this cultome standeth not with the Common law neither with the Statute which putteth

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teththe Lord to his cessavit, and giveth him not any entry. So it is to bee thought of the cu-Stome in a H.4. that the Tenants shall not put their beafts into the Common before the Lord hath put in his, which peradventure hee will never doe, so that the Tenants shall never have their Common. Soitisifa man prescribe that the alienation of the Husband of the Lands of his Wife shall bee good without examination of her. Like law of the Custome in 43. E 3. that if any goods bee wayned in any manner, and if any man take them, that then it shall be lawfull for me to distraine, and detaine the distresse untill such time as I am satisfied: by these cales rehearfed it is manifest, and cleare that all ulages against naturall reason, and the Common law of this Realme are not customes, but evill usages, and not to be allowed. So in our case a custome to take away a mans light, and ayre preservers of health, must needs be malus usus, and therefore ought to bee taken away; For good usages stand with reason, and as Bracton fayth, must give place to reason, and law. But you will say, that the law of your Citty is fuch: I fay, if it stand not with reason, and law, it shall not bee allowed. As 10.E. 3. in an appeale brought by a Cittizen, the defendant waged battaile, the Cittizen said the custome of London is fuch, that a stranger should not wage battaile against a Cittizen, this was thought no good custome, nor sufficient, to deprive a man

of a benefit, which the law giveth him. And fo in 27.H. 6. in an action of debt upon a leafe for yeeres, the defendant fayd that the custome was, that the plaintiffe should repaire the houses, and if not, that the defendant should pay no rent, this was thought to bee no custome allowable. For the third poynt, this is no beautifying at all to the City. In our case Mr. Hayles his house is an ancient house, and therefore against reason that by latter building, the commodity, and use of the same should be taken away. You say also that it is a thing honourable to have buildings in Citties; This I grant, and I thinke no man will deny it: but by building of one, to impaire a better house, this is not any beautifying, or honour at all to a Citty, but rather the contrary. For the fourth matter, if the custome be not good, this confirmation cannot make it good: for as I take the law, the common learning is, that a confirmation cannot make a voyde thing good as for a confirmation est firmum facere id qued non sirmum fuit ante, sed fuit tames 26. H. 8. If an Infant grant an avouson, and at his full age confirmeth the same, by this confirmation nothing is wrought. So it is in the case of 33.E. 3. where the lease for yeeres was made by a Bilhop, and he died before the yeeres expired, the fuecessour confirmeth the said lease, and wibil operatur. Likewise in 39. H. 6. the King granted an avoulon to one, and after granted the mannor with the advoulon to

another, and after the confirmation is made, yet the advouson passeth not. But where the Statute limitteth, that men may devise unto corporations in Mortemaine, yet if they will devise to any that is not a corporation, it is without warrant : And also albeit a man may not wage his law in London, yet if at the Common law, an action be brought against him, he may: so it is of the case in 20. H. 6. that if one be brought before the Sherife, that the Mayor my difinisse him, yet after judgement hee may not dismisse him.

Likewise 12 E.4. where one would have prescribed to buy things without paying of tolle, that he could not be allowed. And therefore I will conclude that fuch customes as stand with law, and reason; are to be allowed, and contrary such as swerue from the rules of law, and reason, to be disallowed. As this custome of yours, that a man should stop his neighbours lights is altogether unlawfull, and unreasonable, and therefore the plaintiffe ought not thereby to be barred of his action.

and at his fall age confirmed whe lame by Mr. Manwood.

Mr. Man-

Here be two matters chiefely to be confide-Argument, red, whether by the Common law this bee a nulance, to stop up part of a mans light, then if the Common law seeme to be doubtfull, whether the custome will helpe us, or nor, divers

cases have beene put, when a man toucheth not the freehold of another, but on his owne land doth wrong unto another mans. But all these cases doe vary from our case, for they are where a man hath a private profit in a thing, and another by doing an act upon his owne land taketh away the same, wherefore an action will lie, as the case in 46. E. 3. where the Abbot of Buckburft had Salmons, comming mar a fluice from the lea, and a stranger stopped the same, so that they could not comes, and hee had his action. So it is where one taketh away my way, because this is a thing locals. And so if water running to my Mill, if one miscarry the same: generally whereloever I have a private profit, or interest, and one barre mee of the same, it is injury: but the ayre is not any element locall, neyther may any man miscarry it, for it suffereth nothing to be voyd, also light, and ayre be not things of necessity, but of pleasure, and be not any profit in certo loce, and therefore not like unto other cases of things both profitable, and also necessary. The case of the ferry I will grant, that if I have a ferry to transport men, and another will erect another I shall have an action, because that I am compellable to maintaine it, and the not keeping of it, is presentable in a leete. The same law is of the market, where the King granteth an other market ad nocumentum of mine, I may have a scire factas to repeale his letters parents if he have these words

in them, that the grant should not bee to the hurt, or prejudice of any other market; and if not I shall have an action on my case: your case was also compared to the case in 4.E.3 and 4. aff. pla. 2. where the aff. was maintained, not for that the plantiffe was annoyed by the smell of the smoke, but because his Apple-trees, and other his fruits were destroyed by the same, and this is a good reason, for that it is to his disinheritance. As for the case of the Limehouse at Ratcliffe, and the smoke of Smiths houses which cast many unfavoury sincle, it is domnum absq; injuria. And I my felfe was by a Smith annoyed by the smell of his smoke, but yet might I not have any action against him. In 18. E. 3. one built an house so high that it dropped from his to mine, in this case an action will lie, for my tiles are thereby confumed, gutta cavas lapidem. So of the case in 2. H. 5. if by Common affent our houses joyne and a gutter is made betwixtus, if I plucke up my part, you may maineraine an action against mee. All these cases hitherto put, have beene of taking away a locall commodity, or elfe of confuming fomething.

The case of the filth I finde not in my booke, but in the booke of Entries, and there it was Per perieter, so that the wals were hurt thereby. But I will agree with you, that if all your windowes were stopped, that an action will lie, and where you say sie mere two at alienum non lady,

this is not meant of things of pleasure, but of things of profit. And here is not any part of your house consumed, but herein a let of your pleasure onely, for which your action is not mainetaineable. And if I have a Windmill, and another will build another by mine, I cannot have any action against him, 11. H. 4.7.E. 3. 22. H.6. Butotherwise it is of a Watermilne. 9. assisar. pla. 19. where one had a Watermill, and another built neere unto him, so that he could not grinde so much as he was wonte, in this case a man may very well mainetaine his action. If I have an Inne, and another set another in the same towne, hee is not punishable, but if hee will stop my guesse, which come to my house. I sall have remedy. If I have a Brewhouse. and another build another by mine, I shall have no action, 12, H. 8. If water fall on my land, and I make a fluice, and let it out of my land unto an other mans; this is dispunishable, for every man may doe this one after another untill it come unto the River, butifit be a river. otherwise it is. For there it is in lace certo. If one house should not be adjoyning unto an other, in would be a great deformity, and if Cheap. side were so built, it would be a strange Cheapfide. And the civill lawes by that two lights on the former part, and backe of an house, are sufficient. And if you make your windowes into our garden, this is a wrong done unto us, for by this meanes I cannot talke with my friends

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in my garden but your fervant may fee what I doe; and to the wrong first begun in Mr. Hale. And therefore Vinivi repellere licet. And IS hath not confumed, or hurt any part of his house, but intertupted him of his pleasure onely. But I further affirme, that for every hurt a man may not have an action, but if a man be oftentimes hurt, he may very well have an action. As if the Lord distraineth for rent, anaction lyeth not, burifhe distraine so oft that I cannot plow my land, I shall have an aff. So the Kings grant of exemption to one is good, but if it bee to divers, it is not good. But if the Common law would not helpe us, yet custome will, & whereas it hath beene fayd, that it is against naturall reason, and law, it is not so, Consuetudoex rationabili causa privat communem legem, and unlesse it doe privare communem legem, it is no custome. As that an Infant of 15 yeeres age, may alien. For at this age he may consent to marriage, therefore in as great reason may he alien his lands; and in some places any Infant of 9 yeeres may binde himselfe apprentize, which is a good custome and standeth with reason. But some customes there are that be not good, As that the tennants shall not drive their beasts into the Common before the Lord bath put in his. So if the leffee will prescribe to surrender at his will, 7. H. 6. otherwise it is of the custome in the 14. H.4. that the Tennant shall not alien without the presentment of the same before, this is a custome

custome, and yet against common reason, but, yet if icharh any talte, or imarch of realon, it, shall be allowed. As if the Lord prescribe that the tennant shall not Common with any beasts, but those which were bred on the same land. this is good, for this will cause the tennant to breed Cattell: likewise that a feme sole Merchante shall sue without her husband, this is good, and yet against Common law, and reason, because the husband hereby is discharged of all such busines: therefore if a custome have any part of reason, it shall be allowed. As 8, E. 2, that a man may make an estate to his wife during her life, and that should bee as good as an endowment ad oftium ecclesia. So is it of the custome of the Isle of Man, that to steale a Capon, or a Pigge, shall bee felony, and not to steale a horse or cow, for that the one may bee hid, the other may not. Likewife is it, that the youngest sonne shall inherit, because he is lesse able to helpe himselfe. So is it of the custome of Kent, The father to the bough, the sonne to the plow, and yet directly against the Common law. -So I thinke of the case of Hogs put by Mr. Wrey, for that in the time of peltilence it is dangerous to let them come into. Citties.

This Citty is the greatest Citty, and most populous in this Realme, and the more populous, the more honourable, & the more buildings, the more populous, and honourable will it be. And theretherefore building is to be favoured. And by this building all his light is not stopped, but parcell. And Mr. Hules thereby looseth no not any great commodity, but is restrained of a little pleasure, for which hee cannot maintaine his action.

To the act of Parliament I will speake nothing, but this I will say, that if any custome be meerely voyed of reason, it is not good. As the custome in 5.H.7. that if the Lord distraine the beasts of his tenants for rent, that he may detaine them untill he be satisfied at his pleasure; and 21.H.7. that if any doe breake the pound he shall pay 3 l. this is a voye, and unreasonable custome to binde an estranger, and yet by common consent of the Lord, and tenants, it is good to binde the tenants.

So if I prescribe that if any mans sheepe goe on my ground all the day, to have the foldage of them in the night, is a good custome, because by common entendment the owner hath quid pro quo. So our custome is for the maintenance of the Citty, neyther is it against the common law directly, neither hereby any offence, or hurt is done unto Mr. Hales, for his house is not thereby impaired. And therefore, I thinke his action will not lie.

Finis de ceux Arguments.

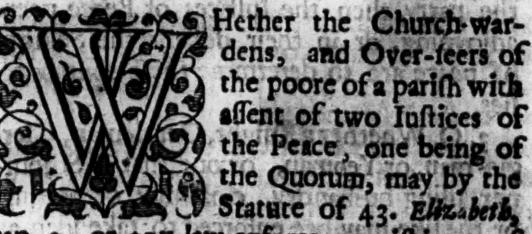
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cap. 2. or any law enforce a parishioner of the same parish to take a child of a poore parishioner of the same parish, who is not able to keepe his sayd childe, to be an apprentice?

Refol. The Statute of 43. of Elizabeth, which fayth, that the Church-wardens and overfeers of the parish shall put out children to be apprentices, necessarily implyeth, that such as are fit must receive apprentices, and the putting out of poore children to be apprentices is one

of the best waies for the providing for the

poore.

2.Q. If they may, then whether they must not give money with him, and who shall determine what money shall be given with him, if the party that is to take such an apprentice, and the Church-wardens, and Overseers can-

not agree thereupon?

Refol. There is no necessity that money must be given, but that must be left to the discretition of the Church-wardens, and Overseers, all circumstances of age and ability, being considered, and if they cannot agree with the party, then the Justices of Peace neere adjoyning, or in their default the Sessions of peace are to determine these controversies.

3. Q. Whether a Knight, Gentleman, Clergie-man, or Yeoman, or one that is Sojourner, using husbandry, cloathing, or grasing, or the like, may bee enforced to take such an

apprentice?

Refol. Every man who is by calling or profession or manner of living, that entertaineth, and must have the use of other servants of the like quality, must entertaine such apprentices, wherein discretion must be a given upon due consideration of circumstances.

4. Q. Whether a wealthy man keeping few or no fervants, nor wanting a fervant, but living privately may be enforced to take such an apprentice; if not, then whether hee may bee taxed towards the putting forth of such an apprentice?

Resol. For the receiving of such apprentices, the answer may be referred to the question next before; but out of doubt every such person must contribute to the charge, as to other charges for the provision for the poore.

5. Q. Whether they may enforce a parishioner that is of one parish, to take such a childe, apprentice, that is of another parish, but within the same County or division, if the proper parish be not able to provide for the children

of the same parish?

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Resol. The Instices may provide Masters for them in other parishes within the same hundred; if the same hundred be not able, then out of that hundred in the rest of that County; As for other provision for the poore, which must be at a quarter Sessions.

6. Q. If such a parishioner may be enforced to take such an apprentice, and shall refuse not onely to take such an apprentice, but also refuse to be bound to appeare at the next quarter Sessions, or Assizes, what shall be done to him?

Resol. If any refuse; let such a one be bound over to the next Sessions or Assizes; if he refuse to give such bond, let him be sent to

the Goole, there to remaine untill he will give

fuch bond on Tom

7. Q. If such a parishioner who refuseth to take such an apprentice shall be bound over to the Sellions for not taking such an apprentice. and when he appeareth there, shall likewise refuse, what shall be done to him, and what shall be done unto the parents who refuse to suffer their children to be put out to bee apprentices, themselves not being able to main-

taine them?

Refel. If at the Sessions or Assizes such a one refuseth to take an apprentice & his excuse be not allowed, it is fit he bee bound to the good behaviour, and it will be a good course to indict fuch a refuser for a contempt, and thereupon to fine & imprison him; if he refuse to be bound to the good behaviour, let him be imprisoned untill he will, & the Kings book of orders direas that such be bound with good sureties to appeare at the Councell board; & if the parents of such poore children refuse to suffer their children to be bound apprentices, or being bound, entice them away, themselves not being able to mainetaine them, let them be committed to the house of correction.

8.Q. whether it be in the power of any generall quarter Sellions to mirigate any penalty upon a Statute law; If the party indicted shall submit himselfe to the fine of the Court, and

waive the traverse?

Refol. If the party be convicted or confesse the fault; it is not in the Power of the Court to mitigate the fine, in such cases where the Statute makes it certaine: but if the party indicted protesting his Innocency, yet quia noluit pliture cum domino Rege puts himselse up into the grace of the Court, the Court may impose a moderate fine, and order to forbeare the profecution. The profession of beautieness

9.Qu. If any be bound to appeare at the Sefsions, and shall tender submission to the Court, whether the Sessions may stay the indicament, and mitigate the fine aforefayd upon the con-

fession of the fact?

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Refol. This is answered before to the next

precedent Article. 10.Q.If a man be convicted for being drunk, tipling, and keeping an unlicensed Alchouse, or being licenced, for suffering others to remaine tipling in his house, or for swearing or driving Cattell upon the Sunday contrary to the Statute in that case provided: whether the Iustice of peace, before whom he was convicted, or any other Iustice of the peace may discharge him of all or part of the forferture or punishment appoynted by the Sta-

Refol. The Inflices have no fuch power of mitigation after conviction, where the Statute appoynts the measure of the punishment.

a warrant for carrying one to the house of correction for keeping an unlicensed Alehouse upon the second conviction breake open the house wherein the party convicted is, to apprehend him?

Resol. This question is to be advised upon, it is put in generall termes and referred to be considered in the particular where it appeareth.

weeke to weeke, or from halfe yeere to halfe yeere, in one parish, and there is gotten with child, and then goeth from thence unto another parish, where shee is setled in service by the space of two or three moneths, and then discovered that she is with child: The question is, whether she shall be setled in the parish where she was begotten with child, or in the parish where she was last setled?

Resel. The place where such a woman was lawfully setled is the direction in this case, not

where shee was begotten with child.

13. Qu. If a woman-servant unmarried bee begotten with child, and then goeth out of her Mistris service, before or after it is discovered that she is with child, and the reputed father be runne away, or is not able to free the parish: whether the Master may be enforced to provide for her till she be delivered, and for a moneth after?

Refol. If the Master hath legally discharged his house of such a servant, hee is no more bound to provide for her then any o ther.

14.Ou. In case a parish condit part of ancient Demeasine, and part of Guildable, an affile is made for the reliefe of the mailtemed Souldiers, the Gaole, &c. according to the Statute of 24. Elizabeth, cap. 2, whether the tenants in ancient demente mail contribute with the Guildable for the payment of the Affize?

Refol. The Statute doth not distinguish betweene the ancient demealne and the Guildable in these cases, ubi les non diffinguitar, ibi nec tor difficultivity of the period track to the

15.0. Whether an Indicament of forceable detainer be within the Statute of 1. Lacobi cap. the party indicted first finde surelies according to that Statute, and whether the party Indicted be to be bound in his ablence to profecute according to that Statute, and whether an Indicament of forcible entrie, &c., found at a private Selfions be to be removed by certievari without fureties, according to that Statute?

Refor This is littelf to be left times the Court of Kings-bench to whole commission, and ju-

risdiction this is most proper.

16,Q. If one be convicted upon the Statute of 3. Car. R. cap. 13. for driving of Cattell

on the Sunday through severall parishes, whether he shall forfeir 20 s. to every of the fayd parishes, or onely to one; if to one, then to which of them?

Resol. This Statute giveth the forfeiture but of one 20 s. for one Sabbath day. Although the driving on that day be through divers parishes. Therefore where the action is first attached, and the distresse first taken, that parish shall have the benefit of the forfeiture, and not the other.

17.Qu. If one who is under the age of 30. yeeres, and brought up in husbandry, or a mayd-servant, or brought up in any of the arts or trades mentioned in the Statute of 5. Elizab. c.4. and not enabled according tothat Statute, to live at his or her owne hand, shall be warned by two lustices of the peace to put him or herselfe in service by a day prescribed by them, and shall not doe the same accordingly, but shall after continue living at his or her owne hand, what course shall bee taken with such a person, and how punished?

Resol. Such persons being out of service, and not having visible meanes of their owne, to mainetaine themselves without their labour, and refusing to serve as an hired servant, by the yeere, may be bound over to the next Sefsions or Assises and to be of the good behaviour in the meane time, or may be sent to the

house of correction.

18. Q. Whether the taxe for the reliefe of the poore, upon the Statute of 43. Ellistett, shall bee made by ability or occupation of lands, or both, and whether the visible ability in the parish where hee lives; or generall ability where foever, and whether his remark ecoived; twichin the parish where he lives that bee accompted visible ability and whether hee shall bee taxed of them onely and for any remark ecoived from other parish onely and for any remark ecoived from other parish ones and for any remark ecoived from other parish ones and for any remark ecoived from other parish ones and some ones of the parish of the pari

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Refore The land within each parish is to bee taxed to the charges in the first place equally and indifferently, but where may be an addition for the personally fible ability of the parishioner within that parish according to good discretion, wherein if there be any mistaking, the Sessions &c. or the Justice must Judge between them.

fits of a market, &cc. be ravable to the poore as well as lands, Cole-mynes, &cc. expressed in the Statute 43. Elizabeth

Refol. All things which are reall, and a yeerely

revenue, must be raxed to the poore.

20. Q. Whether the taxe for the County stocke, Gaole, and house of correction is to be made by the Statute of 14. Elizabeth, cap. 43. Elizabeth: by ability, and upon the Inhabitants of the parish onely, or upon them

them or the occupiers of lands, dwelling in that parish: or whether such as occupy lands in that parish, and dwell in an other parish shall be taxed?

Refol. If the Scattte in particular cases give no speciall direction, it is good discretion to goe according to the rate of taxation for the poore: but when the Statutes themselves give directions, follow that.

for the charges that petty Constables and Borshoulders are at in conveying rogues from parish to parish, and relieving of them and how to be rated?

Tything-men; in such fort as it hath beene used in the severall places where they live.

22. Q. Whether a Iustice of peace may discharge a servant being with childe from her service, allowing that as a reasonable cause that she is thereby made unable to doethe service which otherwise she might have done, & if he may discharge her, whether that parish shall prouide for her, till her delivery, if she cannot provide for her selfe: and so also if her time be expired before her delivery, who shall provide for her after her time ended?

Resel. If a wo man being with childe procure herselse to bee retained with a Master who knoweth nothing thereof, is a good cause to discharge her from his service. And if shee bee begotten with childe during her service it is all one, but the Master in neither case must turne away such a servant of his owne authority. But if her terme be ended, or she lawfully discharged; the Master is not bound to provide for her, but it is a missortune sallen upon the parish, which they must beare, as in

other cases of casuall impotency.

23. Qu. Whether being delivered of a bastard child in one parish, and goeth into another with her childe; and becomes vagrant,
and so is sent to the place of her birth: her
bastard childe being under the age of 7 yeeres,
shall be settled with the mother, & there maintained, if the mother be not able, nor the
reputed father knowne, found: or whether it
shall be sent to the place of its birth, or being
settled with the mother, whether the parish
where it was borne, shall bee ordered by the
two next suffices to pay a weekely summe towards the maintenance of it?

Resol. The bastard childe must bee placed with the mother, so long as it is within the quality or condition of a nurse childe, which shall be, till seven yeeres of age; and then it is fit to be sent to the place of its birth to be provided for, the mother, or reputed father not being able. And the parish where the childe is borne shall not bee forced to contribute to the charge, as long as the mother lives, and the child be under 7 yeeres old.

24. Q. A man with his wife and children takes an house in one parish, for a yeere: and before the end of his terme is unlawfully put out of possession, and after taketh part of an house, as an Inmate in another parish, from whence he is also put out, and then not being able to get any dwelling, they come to lye in a Barne in a third parish where the husband falleth sicke, and the wife is delivered of another childe, where ought these to bee set-led?

Resol. If a man or woman having house or habitation in one parish be thrust out this is an illegall unsetling which the law forbiddeth, for none must be enforced to turne yagrant, and such one must be returned to the place where hee or shee was last lawfully setled, and the Childe also borne in the time of this distracti-

on.

25. Q. Whether an apprentice put out by the Churchwardens, &c. according to the Statute to a Master in another parish, is his Master die and leave no Executor or Administrator sit to keepe an apprentice or able to place him: He shall be provided for in the parish where hee was apprentice or shall bee sent backe to the parish from whence he was put out?

Resol. Servants and apprentices are by law setled in that parish, and if they become impotent there, the parish must abide the adventure,

nire after their terme or time of fervice be lawfully ended.
26. Q. What is accompted a lawfull feeling

in a parish, and what not?

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Real. This is too generalla question to receive a perfect answer to every particular case which may happen bungenerally this is to bee observed, that the law unset eth none who are lawfully secled: mor, permits to to be done by practice, or compulsion, and every one who is serled is a native hon holder lojourner, an apprentice or fervant for a monethat the leaft, without a just complaint made to remove him or her, shall be held to be setled

27. Qu. Arogue is taken at C. and will not confesse the place of his birth; neyther doth it appeare orherwise but that he confesseth the last place of his habitation to begt S. hereupon he is whipped and fent to Sanhis comming to S. the place of his birth is there knowne by some to be at W, and thereupon the roque confesseth it to be for whether he might with-

out any new wagrancy be lengto W?

Resol. In this case it is fit to send such a rogue to the place of his birth for this is but a mistaking and no legal ferling, of the bone and

28. Q. If an Indiament be preferred to the grand Iury of the quarter Selfions of the peace against one for murder, manslaughter, for robery, felony, or Petilarceny, and ignoramus found therupon, whether the faid Selfions may deliver the party by proclamation or not? Rejos.

Resol. Not by Proclamation at all, but for petty Lacenyes, and other petty sellonies; in discretion the Gaole may be delivered of them.

29. Q. If a constable be chosen, and refuseth to take his oath, what shall be done, and whether a Constable may make a deputy and by

what meanes?

Refol. The refulall or neglect to take oath in such a case is a contempt worthy of punishment, and thereupon to fine, and imprison him, and the making of a deputy is rather by toleration, then by law.

30.Q. If a Constable dye or remove out of the parish where, Stc. how is his place to be sup-

plyed?

Resol. By the Lord of the Leete, if that time fall neere, otherwise by the Sessions, but if that bee too sarre off, then by the next Instices.

31. Q. If a poore weake man be chosen Constable or Tythingman, and bee unfit for the place, how may he be removed, and a fit man

fworne in his roome?

Refol. The Iustices of peace must helpe this, and if the Lord of the Leete have power to choose a Constable, or Tything-man and performe so ill, it is a just cause to seize his liberty.

32. Q. If a nurse-childe, a Scholler at a Grammar-schoole, or in the University prove

or discovery of Ideocy, &c. how such persons

shall be disposed?

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Rejol. A nurse-childe or a scholler at the Grammar-schoole, or at the Vniversity, or persons sent to the Common gaole, Hospitall, or houses of correction, are not to be esteemed as persons to be settled there, more then travailers in their Innes, but their setling is where their parents are settled, and children borne in common Gaoles, and houses of correction, their parents being prisoners, are to be maintained at the charge of the County.

33. Qu. What proportion Parlonages or tithes shall beare to the taxation of the poore

of the parish?

Resol. The Parson or Vicar presentative, shall according to the reasonable value of his Parsonage, having consideration to the just deductions.

34. Q. Whether for the placing the poore of the parish, not to be removed by consent of the parish, these poore men may not be placed as Inmates for a time?

Resol. They may by express words of the

Statute of the 43. of Elizabeth. A . leis.

as. Q. If a parishioner or owner within a parish doe bring into the parish without the consent of the parish a stranger of another parish, which is or apparantly is like to bee burthensome unto the parish, how they may ease themselves?

Resol.

Refol. By taxing such a one to the charge of the races of the poore, not onely having respect to his ability or the land he occupies, but according to the dammage and danger he bringeth to the parish by his folly.

36. Que For warding in the day time, for apprehending of rogues, whether the Conftable may not enlarge it to a farther time?

Resol. Warding in the day time is of great use, and must bee left to the discretion of the Constables or direction of the Justices to vary according to the occasion. managinal resident

37. Q. Whether Alchouses ought to be allowed onely in thorowfare Townes, and othere in other places to be reftrained onely to fell to the poore out of doores. Thirse and the

Resol. The Iustices shall doe very well to allow none but in places very fit for their scituation and uses, and to moderate the number.

38.Q.A man for his quality otherwise fit to be a Constable, or of other Office of that nature procures himselfe to be the Kings servant extraordinary, and by that meanes would excuse himselfe to serve in the Country.

Resol. A servant extraordinary may well performe his ordinary service in the Country according to his quality on the control of the

confect of the parish, a littagger of another

criteria or apparentivia like co bee prediction in circo the parilly how chep may



The Inflices opinion touching the Commissions by which the Instices fit at Newgate.

E Justices at Newgate sit by vertue of two Commissions (viz.) Gaole delivery and Oyer onies included and determiner.

By the Commission of Gaole delivery they may try all prisoners in the Gaole, or by bayle, or such as be indicted will render themselves, generally for all felonies: and also for such other offences as are particullarly affigued to them by Statute.

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The Statute of 4. Elizabeth 3. cap. 2. doth render themgive them power to receive Indicaments against prisoners or such as are upon baile, and to proceede to try the lame (viz.) Indictments taken before the luftices of the peace, and by equity thereof all Indictments before coro- of all appeales ners 3. Mar. Bro. Commission. omnines. 24. faith, that the Commission is ad deliberand. Gaok, de prison in eisdem existen. But they cannot take Indictments as Inflices of Gaole delivery, but being Iustices of the peace, they may take Indictments against prisoners, but not against reason to take them that bee at large, for almuch as power Indiaments.

all trespasses, therefore the Iustices of Gaole delivery have power to hold plea of trespasses against them in prison or upon bayle to

v. I. Mar. Dyer, 99. Iustices of Gaole delive . of felony or murderagainst jone in prison by their generall Com, and of appeales: fo

is given them, consequently they must have meanes to doe so, which is by indicaments,

Idquar.

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Howsoever it is cleere that they may enquire of many offences and take Indictments in such cases where power by the Statute is given to the Instices of Gaole delivery in such cases where they have authority by Law or Statute there the title of Indictments is that ad gaolam deliberationem tent. before the Commissioners of Gaole delivery, I. S. was indicted, and the record must be made up so.

And whereas by the Statute 4. E. 3. cap. 2. Indictments taken before Iustices of peace or Coroners or any other against any prisoners, then the entry of the Indictments is returned taken, Memorand. quod ad generalem sessionem tent. before A. B. C. &c. Iustices ad pacem in Com. Middlesex or London I. S. was indicted; and then tryed before Iustices of Gaole delivery, and by vertue of the sayd Smitute Indictments taken before Iustices of the peace of London or Middlesex, and tryed before the Iustices of Gaole delivery.

The Commission of Oyer and Terminer is ad triand, inquirend, endiend, et determinand, they may enquire of all offences mentioned in the Commission, albeit the offendors bee at large but they cannot try prisoners upon ladictments taken before any other then themselves, as the Justices of Gaole delivery may by

the aforefayd Statute, unlesse there be a speciall Commission made, as it was in the case of 3.Mar.Bro. the Earle of Leieffer, mentioned in Plow. Com. 24. for the ordinary Commission of Oger, and terminer is ad inquirend, audiend.et determinand. therefore they cannot determine of things unlesse they made enquirie first, and on the other fidealfothe Inflices of Gaole delivery may trie indicaments taken before lustices of the peace, yet if one indicted before Commissioners of Over and Terminer, the Iustices of Goale delivery cannot try the same, because the Record of the Commission of Oyer and Terminer are to bee returned in the Kings Bench.44 E.3.31 sommand Constitu

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The Commission and the Records of the proceedings before the Instices of Goale delivery, are to be returned to the Custos Rotulor, of the Countie, when the same persons are Inflices of Goale delivery, and of Overand Terminer, they may fir the same day and place and enquire by the same lurie, but the entry of the Records must be leverall, according as diments taken before the indisagminibul ads

At the Affizes in the Countrey, the Inflices have their severall power as the Indices of Goale delivery Oyer and Terminer, and Iuflices of the peace rispina et il nada graviloh

But when the records are made up, they must bee according to the power they made, election to proceed upon or syral sob wal

This is the regular and legall course. But the Clerkes of the Assizes promiscuously make entry thereof, But if a Writ of Error bee brought, they must certific according to Law, or else it will be erronious, and so upon a Certificari.

The Sessions of London may be begun at the Guildhall, and then adjourned to Newgate, it some Indictments bee at Guildhall, then those must bee so certified: if others at Newgate, then the adjournment must bee mentioned, and that the Indictment was then taken.

Note that the tryall of Indicaments taken before Iustices of the peace of London, cannot be tryed at Newgate, as in nature of a tryall before Iustices of the peace at London, for many of the Commissioners, for Gaole delivery, are not Iustices of the peace for London, but in such cases the tryall must be before the Iustices of Gaole delivery: as upon Indicaments taken before the Iustices of peace of London; as in the case of Indicaments taken before the Iustices of peace of Middlesex.

But if indicaments at Newgate be originally taken before them, as Instices of Gaole delivery, then it is enquirable how the Inry sworne, and impannelled to enquire at the Sessions of the peace for London, or Middle-sex, doe serve to present Indicaments before

the Iustices of Gaole delivery at Newgate, unlesse the custome and usage will warrant, the two severall luries, sworne at the Sessions of the peace for London, or Middlesex, are also by the same oath and impannelling to serve for the grand sury for the Commission of Gaole delivery, and Oyer, and Terminer.

Upon conference with Mr. Reeling, and the Clerkes for Newgate of London, and Middlesex, and the Clerkes of Assizes, and view of the severall entries, a more mature, and certaine resolution may be given, this being in hast, and without such considerations as were requisite.

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